



Ridgehaven Court Weed Abatement

Standard Operating Procedure

REFUSE
DISPOSAL
DIVISION

Biological Services

1. Logistical planning should be done at least a week before the desired date of execution. If the project requires a work crew, one can be contracted from Alpha Project (contact: Jason Rodriguez, (760) 403-8112) or Donovan State Prison. To request Donovan's services, write a letter to Sergeant Bolin (or current sergeant) at Donovan Correctional Facility, 480 Alta Road, San Diego, CA 92117. The letter can either be sent directly to the prison or hand delivered to the Corrections Officer stationed at the landfill. All project dates should be cleared with the Crew Coordinator at the landfill beforehand (call: (858) 492-6154).

A staging area should also be designated for equipment and vehicles at the site. Parking spaces can be reserved for this purpose and arrangements for cordoning off spaces the night before should be made with Steve Ramirez, Project Officer at Ridgehaven: (858) 492-5017.

2. Supply and equipment needs may vary depending on the size and scope of project. For most weed abatement projects at Ridgehaven, the following tools are recommended:

- Weed-whacker
- Hard rake or leaf rake
- Burlap sacks or drag-bags and rope
- Hauler*

*If large woody debris (i.e. fallen trees) is being removed from the site, a packer may also be needed. If a packer is deemed necessary, contact the General Utilities Supervisor for Waste Reduction Enforcement Division (WRED) at (858) 492-6012.

3. The site should be assessed for native/sensitive plant species, and all native plants should be tagged with surveyor flagging tape well before crew arrives. Contact Randy Blum, Project Officer at Ridgehaven, to do a site walk-through at least a day beforehand (call: (858) 492-5036). A bio-monitor should be present at all times. Crew should be instructed to avoid all marked plants.
4. Weeds can be eradicated either by hand-pulling or with the use of weed-whackers. Ideally, weeds should be pulled up by the root stalk, or weed-whacked to within a half inch above the ground.
5. Pulled weeds should be raked up, bundled in burlap and carried out of site. If site is too steep, weeds can also be stuffed into drag-bags and hauled up with ropes.
6. Debris should be loaded into a truck or packer and removed from the site preferably on the same day. Debris should be disposed of at the Miramar Greenery.



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7. Upon completion of the project, all flagging tape should be removed and properly disposed.

Benefit of Compliance to Instruction:

- Reduce risk of fire
- Complete project in a timely fashion
- Prevent removal of nonnative plant species and enhance overall native habitat
- Promote good community relations
- Prevent internal conflicts within Department

Consequence of Non-Compliance to Instruction:

- Fuel load build-up leading to increased fire risk
- Inefficient use of time on project
- Accidental removal of native plant species
- Public and administrative dissatisfaction

Environmental Management System (EMS) –ISO 14001

PROCESS MAP #: N/A

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